

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

Applicants respectfully request the following amendments to the specification be entered.

[0018] It will also be appreciated that the cowl can be made as a separate “add-on” component. For this purpose, the cowl can be used to retrofit a conventional fishing rod handle by affixing the “add-on” cowl to a reel seat body at the butt end of a fishing rod handle. An “add-on” cowl includes a generally cylindrical body having the shapes described above, which can be permanently or removably attached to the handle. This concept of an “add-on” cowl is illustrated in FIG. 3 in connection with dotted line 50 that appears below the lowest finger of hand 18. In this example, the portion of handle 21 up-rod of dotted line 50 may be considered to be, e.g., a conventional rod handle, much like handle 14 of FIG. 1, and the portion of handle 21 down-rod of dotted line 50 is an “add-on” cowl 52. Like cowl 27 of unitary handle 21, “add-on” cowl 52 is provided to receive the heel of the palm of hand 18, e.g., during casting.